

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A latex reagent for ~~analyzing quantitatively measuring~~ adiponectin, comprising a suspension of latex particles carrying an anti-adiponectin polyclonal antibody that binds to native adiponectin.
2. **(cancelled)**
3. **(currently amended)** A method for ~~analyzing quantitatively measuring~~ adiponectin, comprising the steps of:
 - (1) obtaining a biological liquid possibly containing adiponectin, and
 - (2) bringing the biological liquid, without pretreatment of said ~~fluid liquid~~ to obtain monomeric adiponectin or predilution, into contact with a suspension of latex particles carrying an anti-adiponectin polyclonal antibody that binds to native adiponectin, and optically analyzing a degree of latex-particles-agglutination.
4. **(cancelled)**
5. **(previously presented)** The latex reagent according to claim 1, wherein the latex particles do not carry an anti-adiponectin monoclonal antibody.
6. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 3, wherein the latex particles do not carry an anti-adiponectin monoclonal antibody.
7. **(currently amended)** A method for ~~analyzing quantitatively measuring~~ the level of adiponectin in a biological liquid, consisting of the steps of:
 - (1) obtaining a biological liquid possibly containing adiponectin; and
 - (2) bringing the biological liquid, without predilution or other pretreatment, into contact with a suspension of latex particles carrying an anti-adiponectin polyclonal antibody that binds to native adiponectin, and optically analyzing a degree of latex-particle-agglutination,

wherein said degree of latex-particle agglutination correlates to the level of adiponectin in said liquid.